GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2091
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015
AGE FRAUD IN SPORTS
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many atheletes/sportspersons who are over-aged and have been representing the country in international sporting events;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such complaints received/cases reported and the action taken against the said sportspersons and officials responsible for the said menace during each of the last three years and the current year, sports discipline-wise; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government to stop the said menace?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FORYOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) & (b) Madam, promotion and development of specific sports disciplines is mainly the responsibility of the National Sports Federations (NSFs) concerned. NSFs are autonomous bodies registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. The Government does not interfere in their day-to-day affairs which, inter-alia, includes holding of sports events, selection of players, age certification, etc. During the recent past, a complaint of selection by furnishing fake age certificate in the sport of Badminton was received. While such complaints were dealt with in consultation with the NSFs, Sports Authority of India and other stakeholders, year-wise and sport discipline-wise data is not maintained.

(c) Madam, to prevent the cases of age fraud in selection of players, Government has issued detailed instruction on 25.11.2009 which, inter-alia, prescribe issuance of identity cards to players, age verification procedure, medical examination of players in case of doubt etc. Further, to bring transparency in the selection of sports-persons, Government on 26.02.2015 issued instructions to all the NSFs to place on their website, various details of the international events held in India and abroad such as notification of selection criteria for such events well in advance along with the details of time and venue for selection, list of core probables and basis of their selection, details of coaching camps organized including venue, dates and list of participants, list of the athletes selected, performance criteria which formed the basis of selection, actual performance in terms of timing, distance, etc. and the position obtained by each athlete/team etc.